

TO ALL.

20 270

MAGISTRATES,

TEACHERS, SCHOOLMASTERS,

AND

PEOPLE

IN CHRISTENDOME,

Who Teach your Children the way of the *Heathen*,
out of their Books, in Naming the *Dayes*, and
Months, and times, and Observing your
Feasts, as followeth.

To that intent is this given forth, that you may come off them,
and Teach your Children according to the Scriptures, in
which you may see your Teaching is different from the *Jews*,
and Christians in Old Time : But according to the Heathen
since the Apostles dayes in the Apostacy.

*Something concerning the naming of Times, Dayes, and Moneths, &c.
And their derivations or Etymologies as they call them, which Chil-
dren have been taught, and are taught out of Heathenish Authors,
and from Heathenish Customs.*

*That Parents may see, what their Children are taught, and whether
they can consent that they may be so taught; and consider what benefit
they reap by being taught those things, and such Authors as Treats of
those things.*

WHen Children begin to Exercise the Latin Tongue in Schools, it is
required of them usually to speak Latin one to another, and also
to know the Reason and Original of Words, which in the most of
Heathenish words, is fetcht from Heathenish stories, Fables, and
Traditions, and an Ability therein is esteemed an Excellency, as exceed-
ing pleasing to the Heathenish Nature and Fancy, especially in such as are young,
and have not been first seasoned with that which is good, and profitable, and are in-
genious

genious and apprehensive, and apt to receive any thing which they are taught, by especial such things as are suitable to Nature, and pleasant to fancy, which are furnished with eloquence, and smooth and pretty expression, and with an outward Glory and Excellency of man; For which end Poetry is said to have been first invented and used among the *Greeks*; And that *Orpheus* the Greek Poet and Musician by that means drew the Savage wilde-People to build, and live in subjection.

And for the same end many fabulous relations in Worships, and Religion were instituted, as *Numa* the second King of *Rome*, is said to have done, leaving many adorations and Rites, and Traditions, which he himself did not believe, but to suit the Peoples superstitious minds, and to subject them; And as the latter *Romans* have done in their Images, Legends or stories of their Saints, singing Service and other outward, Visible, Vain, Glorious, Man pleasing Worship, and Sermons made for itching ears, mixing with those the old Histories and fictions of the *Heathen*, and fancies of Poets, and Sentences out of the *Philosophers*; And so brought up Children in the exercise of these things, because they were agreeable to the multitude, and came to be admired and in request, and taught them to make Orations and Poems, in imitation of the *Heathen Orators and Poets*, containing the same kind of matter, and trained them up in that exercise, by continuance whereof they might become able to write, and compose, and invent a Sermon, only with this difference, that they should take a Text out of the Bible, and with the stuff that they had got out of these and other Authors to paint some of the Bibles matters, and mixt the Saints word, and the *Heathens* words, and their own words and inventions together, which was the ripe fruit of that which was sown at School.

Now that Parents may taste of that which their Children drink of in their *Latin* and *Greek* Authors, a few of those things, otherwise not fit to be mentioned, may be intimated, which they have occasion to come to the knowledge of, and to use at the first, in the *Latin* Tongue; for when they begin to speak *Latin*, and have occasion to speak of the dayes of the Week, as when they ask one another, when must we repeat such and such a thing, then they must answer in *Latin*, *Die Martis, die Veneris, die Saturni*, &c. That is, on *Mars* day, *Venus* day, *Saturn*'s day, *Tuesday*, *Friday*, *Saturday*; Now they must know the reason and derivation of these words and dayes, and must ask one another of them, and if they cannot tell, perhaps they must have the *Penula* and be beaten, or be ashamed as overcome, and he that can tell is praised, and glories in it; So the younger Schollers going to ask of the Elder that have read the Authors, they come to tell them those things which they have learned, and by occasion thereof exercise themselves with relations of many filthy obscene tales, and *Heathenish* fables and legends, wonders, and foolish fictions and actions, which young warrioners are apt to delight in: a suppose as follows,

The younger asks, when we say we must repeat our week's work upon *Friday*, we say, *Die Veneris*: why is this day called so, and what is *Venus* that it is of the *Feminine Gender*, and *Die Martis* on *Tuesday*, *Martis* is of the *Masculine Gender*, and the *Mercury* on *Wednesday* is so, and *Die Jovis* on *Thursday*, and *Die Saturni* on *Saturday*: why are these of the *Masculine*, and *Venus* of the *Feminine*? Give me a reason of this thing.

The Elder Schoier answers him, because *Venus* was a Goddess, as in the *Grammar* I tellon.

lection, she is called the *Goddesse of Love*; And *Mars* was a god, as thou knowest, there he is called the *God of Warr*, and the rest that thou namedst are *Masculines*, because they were *Gods*.

The younger askes, *what is a Goddesse, and why are those called Gods? What, are there many Gods then, that every day in the week hath a god, if Sol and Luna be gods too, then there are seven gods, are there not?* The Elder answers, a *Goddesse* is a woman god, so *Venus* and *Luna* are said to have been women, and afterward by the Heathen came to be worshipped as gods. For *Venus* was a beautiful Whore, and was loved by *Mars*, whom *Vulcan* her husband, the god of Fire, the Smith-god, took together naked in his net, and brought in all the other gods and goddesse to see them lie naked together, that they might laugh at them, as *Ovid* the Poet writes, and as thou shalt find in his verse in the *Grammer lesson*; So that *Mars* was a *Male god*, whose day is *Tuesday*, and *Venus* a *Female god* or goddesse *Friday*, as also *Luna* the Moon, *Munday*, which was a *Female god* or woman, and was worshipped under the name of *Phoebe*, and *Diana* the huntresse which *Ovid* writes *Acton* saw naked amongst her companions, and therefore she turned him into a *Buck*, and made his own dogs devour him, so that the name of that day which was dedicated to her, is with a word of the *Feminine Gender Female*. But the day of the Sun *Sunday* is with a word of the *Masculine Gender*, for that day was consecrated to the *Sun*, who was worshipped under the name of *Phobus* or *Apollo*, which in the *Grammer lesson* is called the god of *Wisdom*, and *Poetry*, and *Musicke*, as in *Ovid*, who there tells how he would have ravished *Daphne*, but that *Diana* his sister whose companion she was, turned her into a *Laurall Tree*; So that he was a man, and so the name whereby the day is named is *Male*; So is *Saturn*, whereof *Saturday* hath its name, for he was a man whom the *Poets* write to have married his Sister, and to devour his Children, and to have cut off the Genital members of his Father, and thrown them into the Sea, whence sprang *Venus*, as thou shalt read in the *Grammer lesson*, whence she is called in *Greek* *Aphrodite*, whence the moneth called *April* is said to be derived, ο ἀφρδ, *Spring*, both; for they say, of that was she bred, and coming out of the Sea in the Iland *Cyprus*, where she had a Temple and was worshipped, she was called *Cypra*, which word thou must have need of for thy verses, when thou comes to make verse, and many such like words, if thou wilt be a good Poet accounted as *Dolphus* for *Apollo* before named, which word is derived of *Dolphus* which doth signifie a *Womb*, because that the god or spirit that inspired that priestesse or prophetesse (which is a woman prophet, and therefore *Sacerdos* is of the *Feminine gender* as well as the *Masculine*) gave forth answers or Oracles from her womb in *Greek* verse; And *Mercury* to whom was dedicated the day called *Wednesday* was a man, and afterward called him the god of *theft* and *Chattel*, and the messenger of the gods, and when you make verses, you must give him such termes and Epithites as *craffy* and *deceifull*, &c. for he was begotten in theft of *Maia*, (so whom is attributed one of the *Seven Stars*, and one of the *Months* called *May*) by *Jupiter* the father of gods, or *Jove* which they derive from *Jovans Pater* a *helping father*, of whose theft evill whoredom and Ravishment ensued many of the gods; and whereof the Poets have a large field and subject for their Poemes, and you that must imitate them for your pen and verses, and so afterward he was worshipped as King of the gods, because he banished and shut up in Hell his father *Saturn*, who had swallowed a stone or image of a Child in stead

of him as they feign, this is the Author of the day called *Thursday*, and *June* was his Queen of gods, of whom the Moneth *June* is named.

Thus People are your Children taught the reason of the names of the dayes and moneths from the *Latin* and *Greek* Authers; Now consider whether you can plead for it, that your Children should be taught to name the dayes after the names of these gods of which these things are related in honour of such gods as these, of which such filthy things and idle foolish fictions are sung by their Heathenish Poets and worshippers; If ye deny it, then why do ye your selves reach them to name the dayes and months after them in *English*? For, *Sunday*, *Monday*, *Tuesday*, *Wednesday*, *Thursday*, *Friday*, and *Saturday*, are the like or the same in *English*; For the *Saxons* from whom these names came, when they came into *England* were Heathens, and Worshippers of the Sun and Moon, and the Planets, as the rest of the Heathen, which they imitated and followed, and so had the *Suns* day, and *Moons* day, &c. And as the *Babylonians* made an Image of *Bell* or *Belus*, or *Baal* their King after his death in memory of him, and honoured it, and came to offer sacrifices to it as a god. and the *Greeks* like them made the Image of their *Jupiter*, and the *Latines* of their *Janus* with two faces, and made him god of the year, and honoured him with the first of their moneths, and called it after his name *January*, which ye yet call so, and lets your Children call it so. So the *Saxons* did to their leader *Tuisco*, which they write did lead them from the Tower of *Babel*, and was chief Ruler of the *German* Nation, who in honour of him after his death, called *Tuisco* his day, which ye and your children call *Tuesday*; their *Mars*'s day, because that *Mars* is over warrs and contentions; And of *Woden* another of their Captains, their *Mercurie*, for there were many *Mercuries*, they made a god and worshipped him, and named one of their dayes after him *Wodensday*, *Wednesday* as you & your Children call it; And their *Jupiter*, they called *Thor*, for his Image wore on his head a Crown of Gold, & round about were set twelve bright Golden Stars, and they were persuaded that being displeased, he did cause Lighrening and Thunder; This answers to the *Greeks* *Zeus*, and *Latins* *Jove*, whom they called king of gods, and was attended with twelve Celestial gods, and caused Thunder. And so after this *Thor* they named his day *Thursday*, as ye and your Children do; And so ye do *Friday* of *Friga* their Idol, their *Venus*, for they reputed her the maker of love and pleasure, and accounted her day the day of gladness and wooing; And ye yet retain *Saturday* of *Saater* another of their Idols, which by his Image appears to have been the same with *Saturn* the devourer of Children, and for that was shut up in *Hell*, as is said, and the same with *Molech* to whom the *Jews* sacrificed Children and burnt their sons and daughters unto Devils. So see what gods (or devils) you and your Children do make mention of and honour by calling your dayes and Months after them, such as *Saturdays father*, and of the Moneth *February* which is so called of *Februus*, a name of *Pluto* the god of *Hell*, to whom they sacrificed in that moneth and had his feastival dayes called *Februa*; and sacrificed to his Queen *Proserpine* the queen of *Hell*, and offered and used *Tapers* and *Candles*, which afterwards the *Christians* as is said, thinking to convert to a better use offered to the *Virgin Mary* called by them the Queen of *Heaven*, and at her *Masse* offered *Candles*; And so that time ye and your Children call yet *Candlemasse*, and in stead of the feasts of that *Saturn* and their furious drunken feasts of their god of Wine *Bacchus*, they observed the riotous and revelling times of

Shrove.

Servetide, and Chrismasse, and exercis'd sports and games, and invented playes with the Devil in them, Lords of misrule, Masks and Monstrous Vizards, like Martin in whose times they are said to have begun, which the Sarcene, of whom cometh the English, soon after imitated; So instead of their Heathenish Temples set up Churches, which are the Masse-houses, which now the Protestants call the Church; And Diana's Temple became Pauls Church in London; And their Easter, which is in the moneth called March became the Christians Easter, and so you and your Children call it.

Are these sound and wholsome words, hath the Scriptures such? Is this good communication? Are these good costomes or good manners? Or do they not corrupt good manners? Do ye well in giving your Children these Books? Is this good learning of the Tongues? Or is not the tongue exercised in these things set on fire of Hell, and sets on fire the course of Nature, and is in a world of Iniquity? Consider what you send your Children to School for, and what you would have them to learn, and what profit you expect they should gain, and what kind of knowledge you would have them attain to; Is it the fables and fables, and fictitious, and transformations, and feigned miracles, and trappings, and loves, and fancies, and furies, and contentions, and genealogies of the Heathens Goddes and Goddeses, and the rest of their acts and monuments, that you would have your Children learn and understand, and get into their memories and fancies to be exercised about, while in the mean time you call them Christians, that in their Baptism did promise to forsake the Devil and all his works, and yet you give them the works of Devils to exercise themselves in for their work; For that which they call their exercise in School, when it is most and finest fraught with the composition of the works of those Devils, it is amongst Scholars accounted the best and finest exercise, and most plausible and quite worthy, and shews the finest wit and fancy, and the greatest reading, and such a one is called a fine Poet, or Orator, or good Scholar, or of rare invention. May they not attain to the knowledge of the Tongues without these? And doth the Ignorance of these, abate any thing from the dignity of Speech? Is it any thing but the Ignorance of evil? And is not that good to be ignorant of that which is evil? Is not the speech and mentioning and memory of these things to fail, and with the Jewes? Or are they to be continued and propagated in Children, and set up and nourished in the finest wits, to bring forth such fruits as they have done in the whole World? Is this good Education and bringing up of Children, that are called Christians, and the Children of Christians? If you say we send them not for Religion, but to learn the Languages, that they may be serviceable in the Common-wealth; And so they may learn the Speech, and not regard the matter? Answer, That is denied, for the Speech cannot be learned and understood, without the understanding of the matter and sense, and they that are not capable of the one are not capable of the other, and they that are apt to apprehend the Speech are more apt to apprehend such matter, as is said before. And in so saying, ye go against your own Rule, Authority and examples for those things; For in the preface to the Grammar, Masters are exhorted to teach Children at the first, some little Book containing not only the Elegance of the Tongue, but also some good plain lesson of Godinesse and Honesty. And the Council of Queen Elizabeth sayes that the Heathen Poets being taught in Schooles, tends to the nourishment of vice, rather than the advancement of Vertue; And so gave command that

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in stead thereof *Olands Boock* in regard of the matter as well as the verse, should be taught and learned in Schooles. So that these Common-wealths men, did not think it to be good for the Common-wealth to learn the *Heathen Poets* works, and the Christians before the Apostacie also rejected them; if therefore you plead for them; And would have them taught, you dissent from your own Rule for teaching, and your Authority, and your best examples, The *Ancient Christians*, and plead for that which was set up again in the time of Apostacy, and hath poisoned all Christendom in Schooles first, and after in Colleges, Now see who is most like to poison your Children, those that teach such things, or those that keep to sound and wholesome words:

R. R.

To all School masters, Priests, and Teachers, and Magistrates, that be Christians.

Whether or no the way of the Heathen this hath not been that ye have learned, and do teach in your Schooles to this day; Therefore to you all in this paper, that you may see how ye be out of Scriptures, and how ye have learned and taught your Children according to the Scriptures of Truth, nor according to the Jews, nor the true Christians, before the Apostacy, in the dayes of Old, among the Apostles; But according to the Heathen. Now number your selves, the Dayes, and the Months, and the Fathers of them.

THe first day, Sunday, who was Sundayes Father, *Phœbus* the god of the Sun, or the planet of the Sun, whose Image the Saxons made and worshipped; the second day Monday, *Phœbe* or *Diana*, the Goddess of the Moon, and the Saxons Idol; The third day Mars the god of War, and *Tuisco* the Saxons Idol, Tuesday; The fourth day Mercury the god of Craft, and the Idol Wooden, Wednesday, The fifth day, Jupiter the Father of the Heathen god, and the Idol *Ither*, Thursday; The sixth day, Venus the goddess of Love, and the Idol *Eriga*, Friday; The seventh, Saturn, shut up in Hell, and the Idol *Saater*, Saturday.

Of the first moneth March, Mars the god of Warr; of the second April, *Minerva* the goddess of Lust; the third May, *Maia*, the Mother of Mercury, the Heathen god; the fourth moneth June, of *Juno*, the Queen of the Heathen gods; the fifth moneth July, of *Julius* who was made one of their own inferiour gods; the sixth moneth August, of *Augustus*, another of those their Minor gods, the seventh, Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth moneths were instituted by *Romulus* the builder of Rome; the Eleventh moneth by his Successor, called *January* of *Janus* their god, and the Twelfth; February of *Februus*, the name of the god of Hell.

Now ye that go under the name of Christians have borne that name, and are found in these goings of the wayes of the Heathen, and not come so far as the wayes of the Jews, who were not by the command of God to walk in the way

of the Heathen ; And so of the Christians short, which followed Christ, who was the end of the Jewes, which both Christians and Jews differ among in Appearances Christians which have that name ; And they differ in many a the Heathen, who calls the dayes, *First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh*, and calls the monthes twelve, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, &c. Therefore like whom do you teach your Children, and whose Books have been your Examples, and which have ye practised and followed ? And whose writings have you most delighted in, and whose have been to you the most imbrued, the writings and practices of the Jews and Christians, or the Heathen, which we may see in our native Country and our Fathers house, whose Language and Speech ye have loved best ; And what tell you us of the Christians of Old time, how they named the Dayes and the Monthes, or the Jews either who was taught by the Lord God, and directed by *Moses* the Prophet of God, who to name them ? We will follow the counsel of our Old Fathers, *Tufoe*, and *Woden*, *Sater*, and *Jesum*, and *Jupiter*, and *Mars*, and *Mercury*, and *Apollone*. Do you think that *Moses* and the Christians of Old, and the Apostles were wiser then themselves ? All true had not been good wayes, and good Teaching, our School Masters, and Ministers, and Magistrates, would have had them do as we now do, which speaks against them, but a company of giddy headed people, whom we call *Fanatics* that thus taught the Christians of Old, which lives in the end of *Moses*, which imbrued our *Bina* in Old time, and some of our *Poets* mocked at them as one *Paul*, who called the dayes not after our Fathers names : And what do you tell us of first day, second day, first Moneth, second Moneth, contrary to our Fathers mentioned in the *Scripture*. And true people will say, that they send their Children to School to learn manners too ; And if they be not taught to Scrape, Currie, and Cape, they are ready to say they are not taught good manners, and that they will say of friends that teaches them, who can distinguish the good manners from teaching, and cannot observe such things, they call it unbecome, and calls them inhumanity ; And that they want Modesty that honour not a man or woman with such things, and call them impudent that goes before a rich man or not observing the ordinary complements and doing their honours as they call it, and that that do it, they will denounce *Irre*, &c. And they that do not *Irre*. Now this again is contrary both to the Scripture, and their own rule, to esteem in showing good reputation, Modesty, Decency, and honour to such things ; 2. to *Cape*, *Scrape*, and *Currie*, &c. And to place it in those things, for the words themselves do bear another thing ; and some Books and Heathenish Authors themselves that the Pastor and School Masters do give the Children to learn, do not place their honour and decency, and modesty, and manners in that ; And they cannot say that their chief Author of good manners did call it any good manners at all to put off the *Irre*, or that he urged to do so, or that it was come after the manner of the *Roman* (for of the *Babylonians* neither) and they were the men that were renowned and honoured through the World, and called manners *Mores*, as such things, and in their tongue is used for conditions, and calls a well conditioned youth, a well mannered youth, and an ill conditioned youth, ill mannered, and calls manners the same that he calls Offices, Duties, and these he does not place in doing their *Congius*, *Cassiter*, *Rate*, *Scrapings*, &c. as they now do ; But in the exercise of all Vertues, Prudence, Justice, Fortitude and Temperance, &c. And all honestly, and that he calls decency and decent, which

nifies comely, and that which doth become one, and that whatsoever is honest, is comely; And that all men would admire and love honesty, if it could be seen with eyes (*Hats* and *Scrappings* are seen enough) which is honourable, for honesty and honour have relation, and are both derived of charge or weight, as in other Tongues also; So that lightness and vapouring and complementing and light fashions too, which is now accounted Gallantry and Decency, are not so Honourable nor Comely, nor Modest, for they are out of the Moderation, which both consist of a word which signifies *Measure*; And to do or use things out of measure, without measure, there is modesty, moderation lost, and temperance, where there is no bridling, and that is ill breeding.

And we see that the heads of the Gentry, heads and great mens manners, Breeding, Decency and Comlieness, and Modesty and honours, lyes in doffing *Hats* one to another, *Scrapping* one to another, and *Curtysing* one to another and saying the word *you* one to another, which they that do not are *Fools*, *Lies*, *Clowns*, and ill bread; not saying the word *You* to one, not *Scrapping*, not *Curtysing*, not *Doffing* the *Hat*, puts them besides all their Religion, and that which they have been taught in their teaching Books, what is good manners, Modesty, and what is honour; so contrary to their own rule they have gone and degenerated. So this is for people to consider, and minde before they act; Read over the Scriptures that Teaches of those things, and their own teaching Books; Whether a man may not be truly Honourable, Comely, Decent, and Modest, and yet never doff the *Hat*, nor *Scrape* with the Leg. nor *Curtis*, nor say the word *You*; Which is the Worlds Manners, and Decency, and Modesty, and Comeliness:

G. F.

THE END.

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